ISSUE 2, VOLUME 1

USACE

WILMINGTON DISTRICT NEWS

JUNE 2017

District On Track Building Quality Facilities for Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Article and Photos by Hank Heusinkveld

Project Engineers Joshua Kallam, left, and Anthony Byrd of the Wilmington District's Special Operations Command Area Office check data from the construction of the SOF Language and Cultural Center.

The nature of warfare continues to change, and Special Operations Forces are becoming more relied upon for complex battlefield engagements. They are valued for their out-of-the-box thinking, imagination, and initiative, and are able to operate within a small footprint with light support.

At Fort Bragg, construction managers of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District's Special Operations Command Area Office manage the construction of state-of-the-art facilities that are being built to accommodate the specific needs of the special operations community. Construction teams have an intense schedule, and combined with the Fort Bragg's well-known operations tempo spearheaded by the 82nd Airborne Division, they say the numerous construction projects are challenging, yet rewarding through support to the Green Berets. That means keeping projects on time and on budget.

"Our stakeholders know what their facilities require to meet their mission and they work hand in hand with us through the life of the projects," said Ron

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ACE-IT UPDATES

Office 365 Update: As we move closer to deploying Office 365 tools to USACE, it is important to realize some of the benefits and features that will enhance our productivity. Office 365 will provide flexible tools for collaboration across teams. Your contacts will be synchronized across email, calendaring, IM, and Skype for Business meetings. While reading an email you can ask the sender a quick question with IM, then bring in others on the same IM discussion. The IM can become an audio and video discussion. You can share a view of your desktop and enable multi-user editing of a document. When OneDrive is deployed we'll be able to access files from multiple devices and locations and synchronize the latest version of files across working groups. To learn more about the coming environment, you can visit the Microsoft Office 365 Productivity Training Center <https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Office-365-productivity-training-af07cb6b-980d-4f33-8599-322582767408?ui=en-US&rs=en-US&ad=US> . Our PM for Office 365 is Nancy Greeley.

Windows 10 Update: USACE Districts continue to deploy Windows 10 with a total of over 3,250 PC's migrated to Windows 10 as of 8 June. The Deputy Secretary of Defense has identified Windows 10 as a critical security upgrade for all DoD commands with a suspense 31 March 2018 for 100% deployment. USACE is identifying critical data and requirements for evaluation to meet the suspense date for Windows 10.

USACE Migration to DoDIN/JRSS Update: We continue our work with DISA and ARCBYER on latency issues, and the re-architecture of the USACE network. Recently, the USACE CIO/G-6 team met with ARCYBER, DISA and Army CIO/G-6 in Hillsboro, OR, to plan ways to better optimize the network through local JRSS connections instead of routing all traffic through WPC/CPC. This has two specific benefits – faster routing for our users, and two the possibility of eliminating costs by divesting unneeded circuits. The teams are developing use cases to test these designs. Additional information will be provided once planning is completed. As always, ACE-IT requests users contact the Enterprise Service Desk (ESD) at 1-866-562-2348 and report any issues you experience with VPN, DMVPN, external email, latency, or access to external websites that no longer work. Your input by way of an ESD call is vital to capture all problems that are impacting the USACE mission. Our PM for JRSS Migration is Rod Dutton.

Employee Purchase Program!

Employees can take advantage of Microsoft Home use program (HUP) and other things by logging into the ACEIT On Line page which is a plethora of information;

https://aceit.usace.army.mil/Pages/default.aspx

To get to the Employee Purchase program go the Self Help (Top menus) and click on it to pull down the list and then choose the Employee Purchase program. When you choose it you will be prompted to choose a CAC certificate, choose your EMAIL cert.

Wilmington District News Online is an unofficial publication authorized under provisions of AR 360-1 published quarterly by the Wilmington District Public Affairs Office to keep District employees informed of current District news, activities and achievements. Send your comments or suggestions to **lisa.a.parker@usace.army.mil**

This is an online publication and open to the public.

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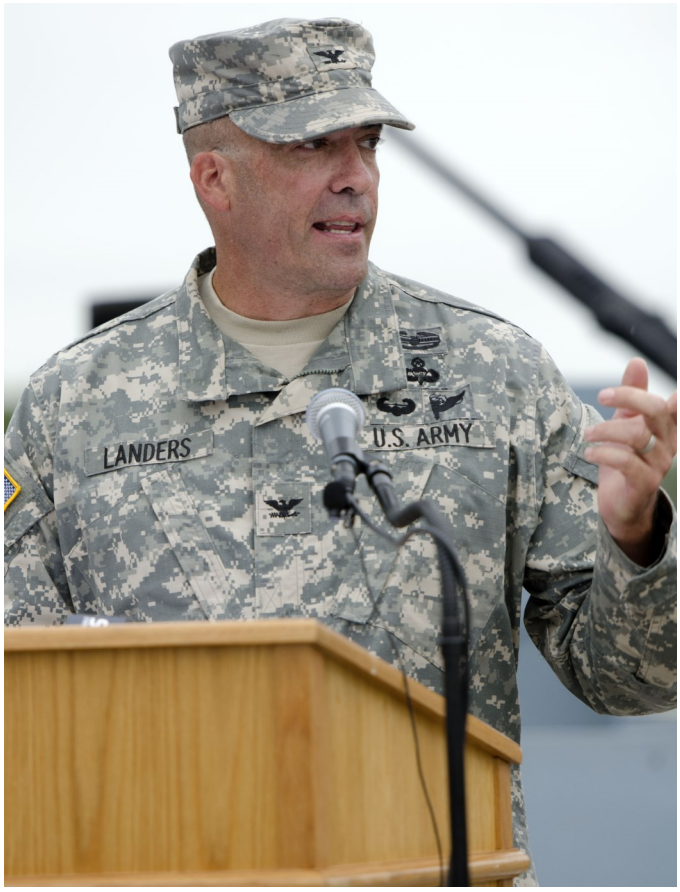
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Wilmington District

District Commander's Farewell:

"It's the relationships that are going to carry us through to the common goals."



Col. Kevin P. Landers, Sr.

What has been your biggest accomplishment?

I think that it's really the continuity that the civilian workforce brings to the District. But I don't know if it's any one project, and I think that it's more pride and ownership associated with these projects. If you go out to one of our lake projects and spend a day with a park ranger you quickly find out that's not a project to them. You quickly find out that the ownership that they have or the pride that they have they feel that it's theirs. It's as good as their backyard. They start talking about a seed plot that they put out for the deer or managing the forest plot that's out there. And you just watch their body language and how they light up because it's as if they put a garden in their own backyard. And it's less about being their project on their place to work. It's a part of them, and extension of themselves.

To find somebody like our water managers all of a sudden we have water flooding down the Neuse River Basin and to see the ownership that they take and the pride that they take wearing that problem on their shoulders it physically wears them down. You can see it in their body, you can see it in their tired eyes. At the end of the day there was an unexpected kind of pleasure watching our workforce really taking ownership of the projects. It has less to do with which colonel was sitting in this seat and more of like a proud parent watching their child succeed in school or on the soccer field. For as much as what's wrong with the government civilian system, as painful as it can be at times to the person, the ownership and pride in the individual projects is not something that I expected to run across, not something I expected to be involved with, but even less so something that I didn't expect to appreciate after three years.

When you first assumed command you were on the outside looking in. What have you seen from within that is working well and what needs improvement?

I just had a meeting with our senior leadership about how appreciative I was in my three years of tenure in watching the maturation process of us embracing relationships; relationships internal and relationships external. I think the number one thing that we can continue to invest in, whether it's the senior leadership all the way down to the newest employee, would be fostering the relationships that we need

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USASOC CON'T

Cannady, Area Engineer at the Wilmington District SOCOM Area Office. "And at the Corps we take pride in our projects, by partnering with our stakeholders and contractors to make every project successful."

What has worked well in keeping construction projects on time and on budget is constant communication between USACE and USASOC officials. The Wilmington District team has a broad understanding of the specialized activities of the Special Operations community, so they know what their customers need when they plan strategic missions.

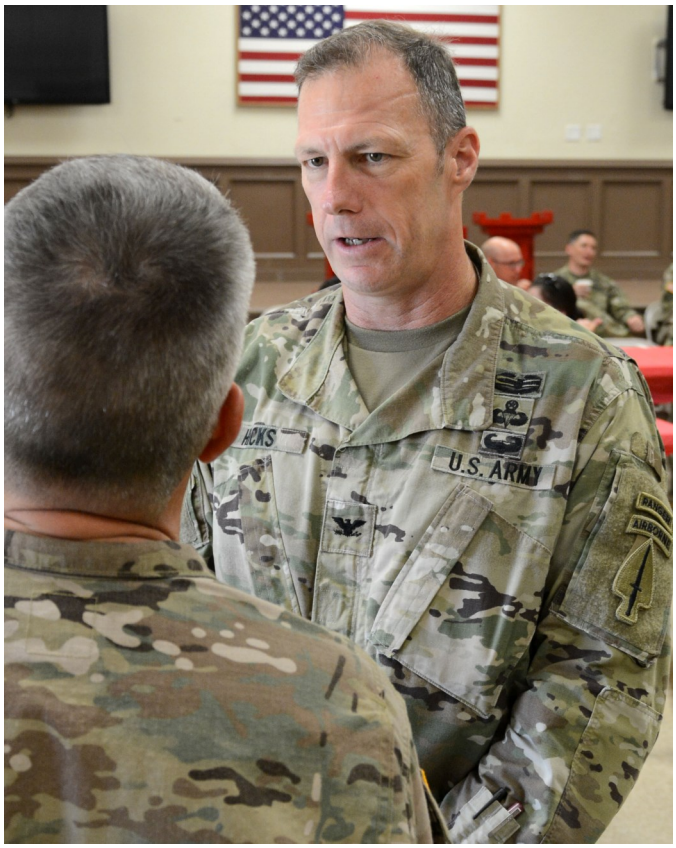
"These buildings are specifically designed and constructed for these soldiers to meet their requirements and their needs with the correct square footage, both operationally and administratively," said USASOC Headquarters Command Engineer Col. Lee Hicks. "The older buildings have never been the right size. So, they've had to modify those buildings to meet the space requirements to store all of their equipment to include personal gear and professional gear."

The areas where the buildings are located were strategically designed, Hicks said. Battalions, brigade group-sized headquarters, battalion headquarters, company headquarters as well as the motor pools are consolidated into one area.

"With these facilities it takes the soldiers all the way through the planning phase from receiving the mission to planning the mission to preparing for the mission to actually moving out to go execute the mission," Hicks said. So all of that is done in one house instead of several houses that they were in before."

Hicks said that in the older facilities the team room was overcrowded and they couldn't do their planning properly so they had to go to another facility. They would then have to go to another facility that could prepare all of their equipment to put in their vehicles before moving out for the actual mission.

"So you had very different stages of preparedness. Now with the new facilities everything is under one roof. They've got all of the specialized gear standing by that's in their ready room. When they finish their planning, which is right next to their team room, they go downstairs, grab their equipment



Col. Lee Hicks is the USASOC Headquarters Command Engineer.

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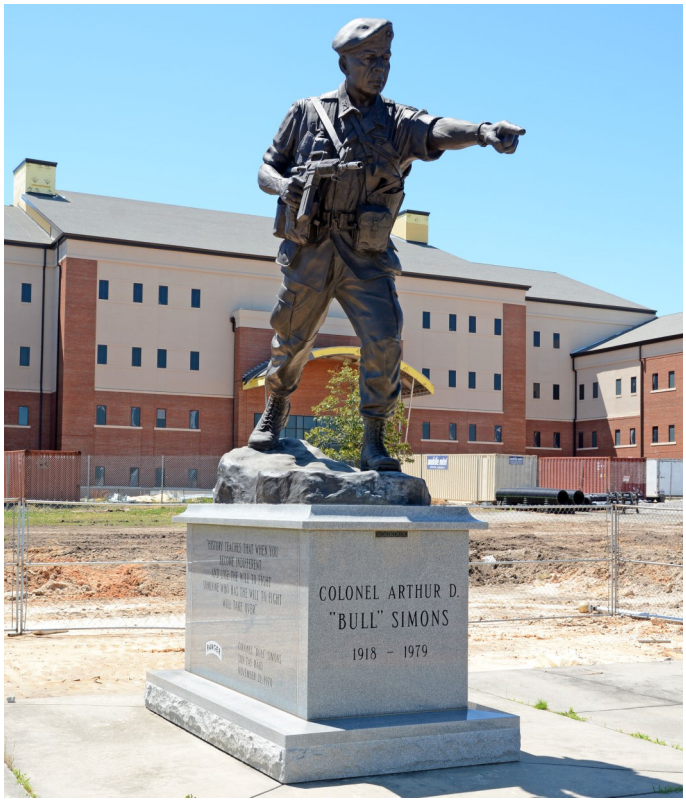
USASOC CON'T



The iconic statue of Special Forces legend Colonel Arthur "Bull" Simons stands in an enclosed area before the SOF Language and Cultural Center.

and move on out. So it's very efficient and it cuts down on a lot of wasted time going back and forth between different facilities."

The facilities themselves are not only designed and built to meet specific training and mission needs, they're also designed and built for energy efficiency. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers incorporates LEED or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design into the USASOC projects. Cannady said that this saves the Army money on utility expenses.

"The cost savings come in the lifecycle of the buildings," he said. "A lot of time the upfront costs you put into a project may be the same or a little bit more for normal construction. However, when you look at the lower long term costs to operate and maintain these facilities that's where you realize the savings."

Cannady said there are a number of features that USACE incorporates into its projects. Building lighting control and HVAC management, allows for energy usage to be monitored and optimized. Solar power water heaters and geothermal units provide a cost effective and efficient operational facility. In addition, Cannady said that the facilities are built with a very robust security and communications infrastructure. In order to achieve success, the project delivery team must work closely with the stakeholder throughout the life of the project.

"Technology is always evolving. And that is where we usually run into the timeline disconnect between project planning and design versus construction," Cannady said. "When this happens we partner with our stakeholders to determine the best path forward to ensure the facilities have the required capabilities to meet their mission."

The face of Fort Bragg continues to change. Remnants of WWII-era buildings still exist and stand as reminders of the Army of the past, but they're slowly being demolished to make room for new construction. A few Special Operations units still occupy those buildings, but they'll soon move in to modern, state-of-the-art buildings that will help make their mission planning more efficient to effectively deal with daily global threats.

COL LANDERS CON'T

potentially tomorrow. Our relationships with the likes of the ports during my three years has ebbed and flowed. But what has been tried, true and tested is that we have to keep chipping away at bettering the relationships. We have to keep feeding those relationships because we're not going to always agree on things. But it's the relationships that are going to carry us through to the common goals that we're all trying to get after. It's not that the ports have a different agenda than we have, or we have a different agenda with the ports. Our stakeholders have input in how we operate, and for us to have that common understanding at the individual level. I think that if I had a fourth year I'd probably concentrate a lot more of my efforts on the relational aspect of what we do in planting a seed today and get the benefits tomorrow, so to speak. I don't think we invest enough overhead into that. And I think the same holds true internally. I think often times we get into our cube farms, heads down, pencils down and we just keep plugging away at our individual work and we don't necessarily pay enough attention or give enough credence to the relationships around us when the reality is we're one hundred percent matrix organization. We operate around a given project, but we matrix in from all the different functions of that one project. But we don't necessarily, consciously, fed those relationships to the point of where we understand the individual dynamics sitting right next to me; what's going on with that person on a personal level to make him/her a better team player and an effective person in providing their function to that team. I think that's the number one thing that resonates with me in this environment how crucial and how critical the relationships really are.

Being a part of Big Army, what can the workforce do to practice Army Values?

Pride and ownership, individually on a given project is one thing, but sometimes that pride can put up barriers as well. When we're working in cube farms vice seeing the fruits of our labors we're so dedicated to the project and the task at hand that sometimes we do forget what's going on around us. I think that people could be a little more open-minded and be accepting of the various cultures and societal representations that we have here in the headquarters. We should embrace the notion that we are a family. It doesn't mean that we have to spend every hour off duty together or go out of our way every single moment of every day. But in the same token, we are a family where you can see little snippets here and there of a parent or a loved one is lost and we all come together to surround that person and embrace them. But I think that there's a whole lot more that could be done with that notion of trying to lift up our fellow man. Sometimes we treat our very coworkers as some stranger right off the street, and I think there's a little more we can do as far as working together because I think that translates directly over to this matrix organization.

The FY18 Budget was a little better than last year. What do you see in the future for the Wilmington District?

Our budget looks a little healthier this year, but in the big scheme of things it's still relatively static. At the end of the day static for us is good, being that the preponderance of work is in the operations and maintenance arena. Having a steady flow of money is good for us. The fact that we don't have new work means that we don't expand. If we're remaining static I think that's good. That said, you have to expect that the military construction as a whole at the macro level across the U.S. is going to continue to decline as we build out more and more of these installations. So that, too, is turning more into the operations and maintenance. In Civil Works, there doesn't seem to be an appetite today in executing new work, but the new administration is talking a lot and there are a lot of indicators that they're interested and trying to push forward an infrastructure package across the U.S. So will that translate into work for the Corps of Engineers? I can't answer that, but I think it would. So overall I think things are looking good for us. The stability of the workforce is directly commensurate with our workload and our workload is good. And so therefore I think we have good stability with the workforce.

Millennial Engineers Bringing Enthusiasm, Fresh Ideas into USACE

Their values are different and they like to work as a team. They're between the ages of 18 and 36 and they're known in their age demographic group as Millennials. In their formative years they were encouraged to help others, and they strive for authentic connections to people. They're motivated by knowledge, and they like to ask a lot of questions. They don't like being labeled as a one-size-fits-all generation, and they especially don't like being referred to as Millennials.

Civil engineer Hadrian-Lyle Leyco, left, is a graduate of the University of California San Diego, and Wilmarie Pagan is an electrical engineer graduate of Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico .

Four engineers have come onboard with fresh ideas and a willingness to add their contributions to the Wilmington District. Their common bond as young engineers? They want to help their communities.

"The Corps of Engineers already has a history within this country as something that's always had the community in mind," said civil engineer Hadrian-Lyle Leyco, a University of California San Diego graduate. "I like that kind of development where there's work being put into the community. And the Army Corps of Engineers is a little more spread out. We have people doing dredging work, military construction or operations and maintenance. It's that spread of work that intrigued me because you get to do a lot more things. It's much more diverse job-wise."

Although not all college engineering school curriculums are the same, civil engineer Austin Balser said that when he attended Clemson University most of his classes focused on teamwork and team building. He was encouraged to ask questions, not to challenge the status quo, but to find more well-rounded solutions to problems.

"I did not go to engineering school 20 or 30 years ago, but maybe engineers in the past worked individually to find a solution to a problem that they came up with and it was the best one," said Balser. "I feel my education emphasized more working as a group and being able to present a variety of ideas and you pick and choose the best part. You don't necessarily have to go with the perceived best idea."

Penn State graduate and civil engineer Graham Gedman's education was a bit different and actually mimics the education of some of his older N.C. State colleagues. While he did work on teams in college, his professors stressed "old school" methods rather than totally relying on technology. Although he grew up with and is adept at computer technology, he prefers doing things "the old-fashioned way."

"My engineering education was great, but I think that Penn State is a little behind in the new age of thinking," he said. "Typically the professors are older with a lot of experience. They taught us the old school way of doing things by hand, and limiting the use of

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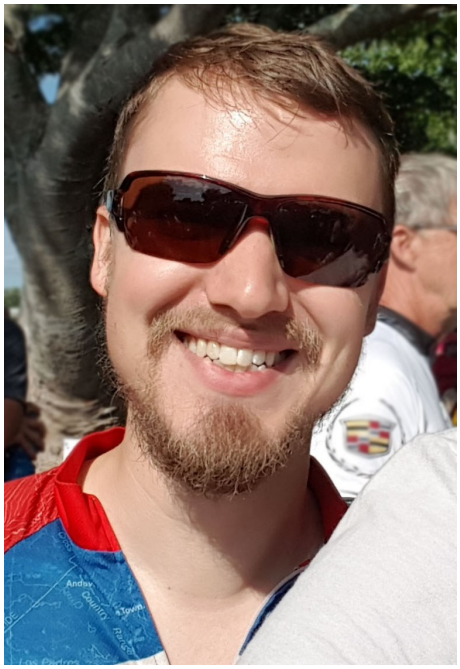
MILLENIALS CON'T

newer technology. A lot of engineering schools teach using newer technology, but not the science behind it. It's better in some ways that I can do things the old school way, but at the same time I can't do things the new school way. I prefer the old school way. I like to do all my calculations by hand."

Gedman, like many in his generation, said that he has a knack for using computers. He's been able to master in only two weeks some engineering software that his colleagues tend to shy away from.

"My generation's the first generation to grow up with smart pads and cell phones and all of that," he said. "But as far as thinking goes as how I want to do things the old school way it fits great into the way everyone else does it here. I think I have a little edge in that. However, I have to be flexible because the old school things don't always work."



Austin Balser graduated with a degree in civil engineering from Clemson University.

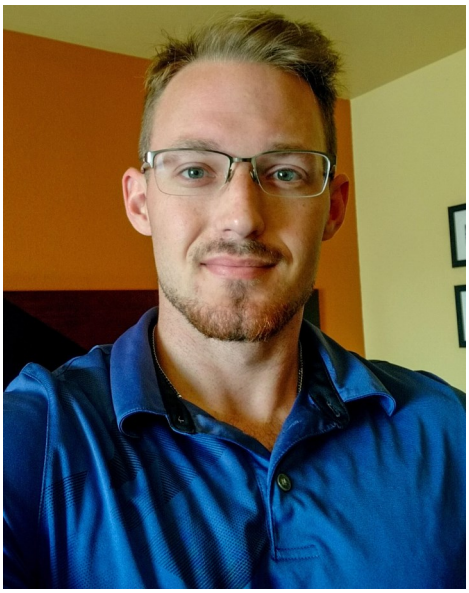
Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico electrical engineer graduate Wilmarie Pagan is also a fan of technology and feels that her generation is adept at computer skills and in keeping up with the latest engineering software trends.

"I think that we have so many uses for computers that it really helps us to do our jobs better," she said. "Technology is so much better now than years ago and for us it's easy to use because we grew up with computers and other gadgets."

Like her colleagues, she feels that working as a team accomplishes more.

"We had a lot of leadership and working as groups," Pagan said. "We had different types of engineers on projects, so it was important to know other types of disciplines in order to find solutions to problems. It's very important to me to work together as a team rather than individually."

Although these four engineers are content and enjoying their jobs, their outlook on full-time employment is different from other generations. Some have seen their parents fired from jobs that they held for decades, only to be let go for younger and less paid workers. And they know that it's common for their generation to hold several different jobs over the course of a career. They keep their options open, but so far they enjoy the variety of jobs and mobility the Corps offers. And they're confident their voices will be heard as even more of their generation joins the workforce.



Civil engineer Graham Gedman received his degree from Penn State University.

"We hope to see more fresh faces to the engineering corps, and we hope to see more experienced engineers later on," Leyco said. "We need to progress as engineers as some missions change, and we want to incorporate the knowledge from our predecessors to what we're learning now."

Leyco added that once he gets a few years of experience he'll then be able to add more value to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He said that his generation thinks "outside of the box," and when he feels the time is right he'll suggest ways to improve the way things are done in USACE.

"You want to learn from what has already been set," said Leyco. "You want to see what can be further developed. That's something that's been engrained in my generation."

Blue Monday Celebrated at Lock and Dam 1 on Cape Fear River

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District witnessed the celebration of, "Blue Monday" on April 17, at Lock and Dam 1 on the Cape Fear River. Since 1895 the Cape Fear River Shad Festival is held the Monday after Easter, historically "Blue Monday" has its roots in African American history when they were held as slaves.

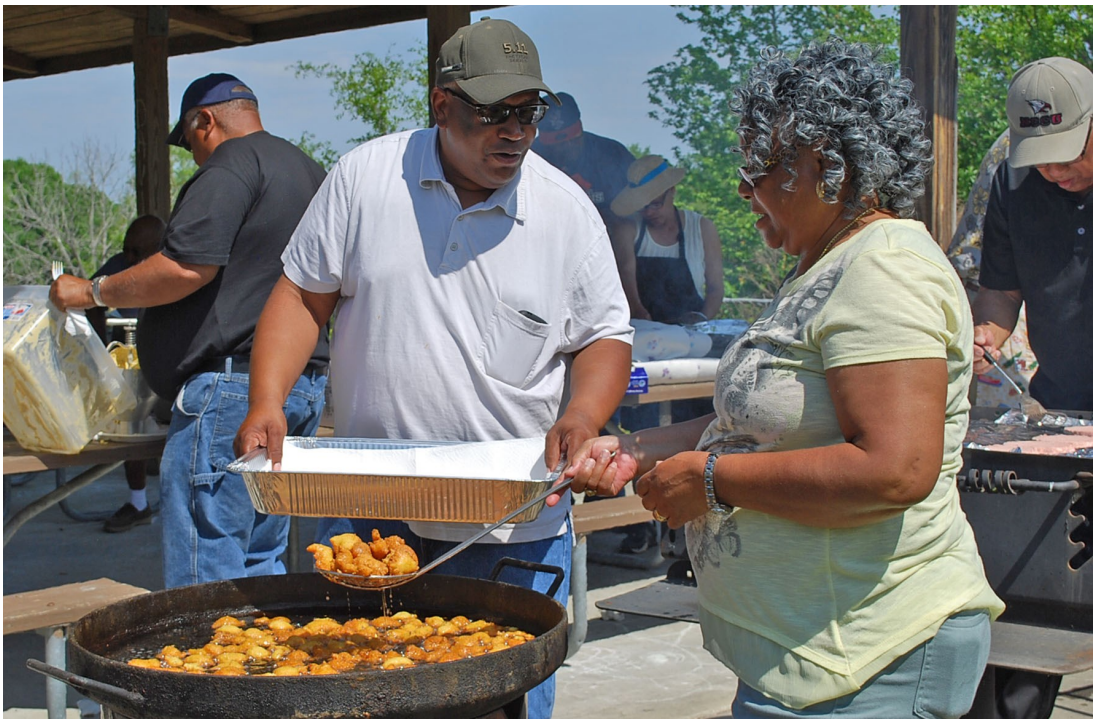
The slaves would catch the American Shad as they ran up river. Native to Atlantic river basins, the American shad are an anadromous fish, meaning they spend the majority of their adult life in the ocean and only enter freshwater in the spring to spawn. Each spring, American shad ascend the Roanoke, Chowan, Neuse, Tar and Cape Fear rivers in North Carolina. The slaves would work around the clock capturing the fish in long nets known as 'haul seines'. At the end of the shad run, the slaves, mostly women would begin the task of preserving the smaller shad which were culled from the larger American Shad and left on the shore to dry. They were then placed in barrels, salted, sealed and sold commercially.

The end of shad season was the beginning of preparation for Easter weekend and was a tradition for the plantation owners to invite relatives to come up or down the river for Easter Sunday dinner. Saturday was a busy day for the slaves, and legend has it, the slaves worked overtime to prepare the big feast, therefore they were given Monday off, which would become the unique celebration called "Blue Monday".

Today, the celebration continues with hundreds of direct descendants of slaves which remained in North Carolina as free persons of color following the Civil War of 1865. Earl Brown, Jerry Graham and Jessie Blanks are three of the sponsors hosting the annual shad festival. "The festival is absolutely free, we don't do any fundraising or ask for any donations," said Earl Brown. "It is open to the public and we have hundreds of people who show up and enjoy the shad and roe".

The American Shad remains a staple among many African Americans and white southerners. The delicacy of the American Shad, its eggs, 'roe' has a special taste, either you like it or you don't. "It is an acquired taste, either you love it or you don't". The roe is prepared in a large separate pot and cooked slowly for several hours. "I use special seasonings and corn meal, onions, pepper and salt to add a unique flavor to the roe" stated Brown.

"It keeps our history alive to have this annual event and discuss the importance of the American Shad to our families and the generations before us," said Brown.



Hundreds of American shad are caught at Lock and Dam 1 and are cooked and served at the celebration.

DISTRICT RANGER TEACHES ABOUT CAPE FEAR BASIN ANIMALS

By Barbara Gersna, Office of Counsel

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District's Park Ranger Victor Pillow joined local environmental groups providing information at Cape Fear River Watch's annual celebration of the history, plants, animals, and water quality of Greenfield Lake on April 15, 2017. There were many free and educational activities, and Pillow's display was very popular with attendees.

A child tries on a black bear pelt that was on display at the Greenfield Lake event. (USACE photo by Lisa Parker)

Children and adults asked Ranger Pillow questions about the many animal pelts that he encouraged all to touch. Pillow displayed a black bear, bobcat, beaver, both grey and red fox, skunk, opossum, coyote, mink, muskrat, nutria, raccoon and river otter pelts.

Pillow said he provides mostly water safety information at these community events, but the animal pelts get folks to engage more and ask questions, and have become a big hit! He continues to teach water safety, but the pelts get people to use other senses to learn about animals found in North Carolina.

"They've become very popular," Pillow said. "Sensory learning with touch is another way people can learn about native animals," he said. All of the animals whose pelts were displayed lived around the Cape Fear River Basin.

The black bear was a favorite. Pillow encouraged children to wrap the bear pelt around them. "Native Americans wore these to stay warm," Pillow said.

"Beavers can weigh up to 45 pounds," Pillow told a visitor. "They slap their tails as a warning." He told another visitor how the mink is a nocturnal animal.

With coyotes being seen more in Wilmington neighborhoods, Pillow explained to visitors their growing numbers in the state. "Coyotes don't have any natural enemies here," he said. "They can have up to 15 pups in a litter." Coyotes migrated to North Carolina in the 1980s.

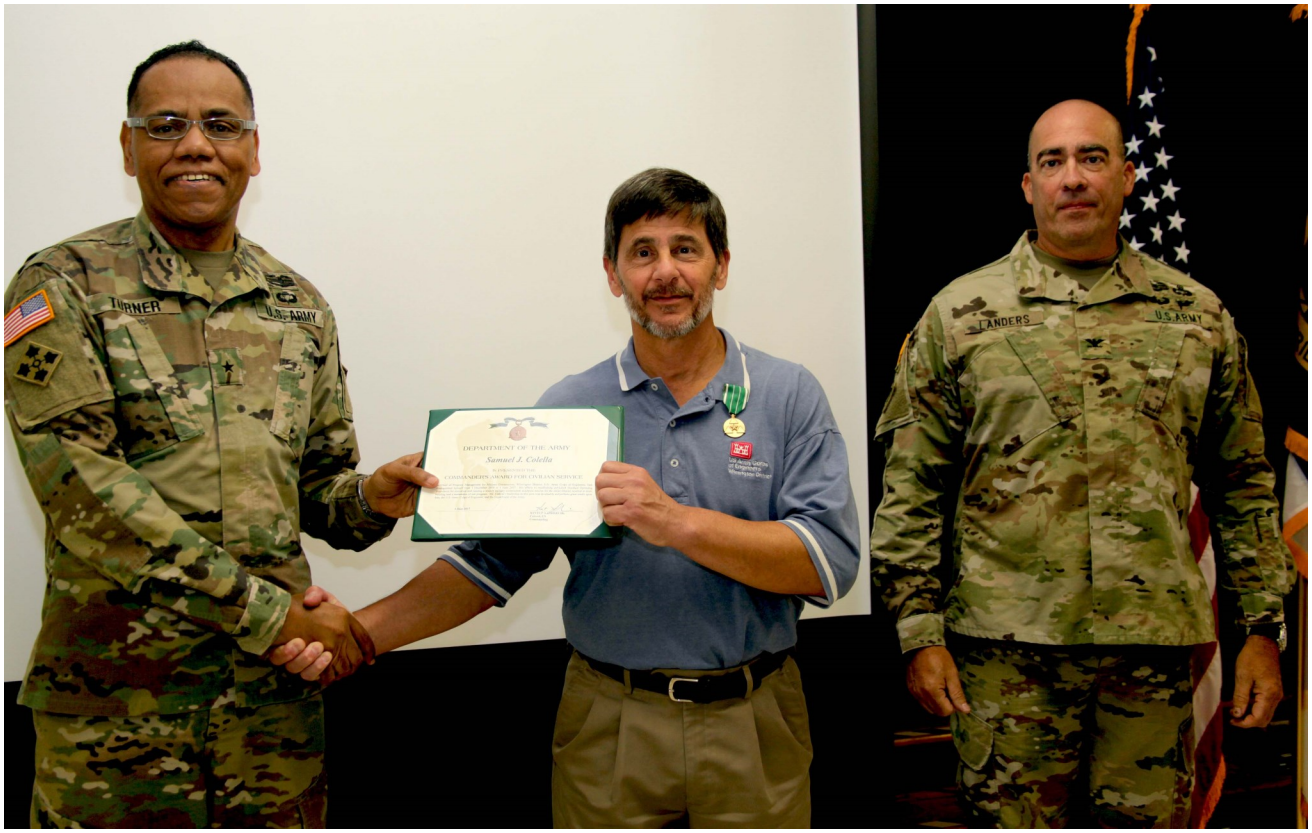
"In 2005, coyotes were established in every county in the state," Pillow said. "They're also breeding with wolves, creating 'coywolves'."

Ranger Pillow works at Lock and Dam 1 providing water safety information and answering visitor's questions. He also provides outreach at community events representing USACE Wilmington District.

GOOD NEWS!

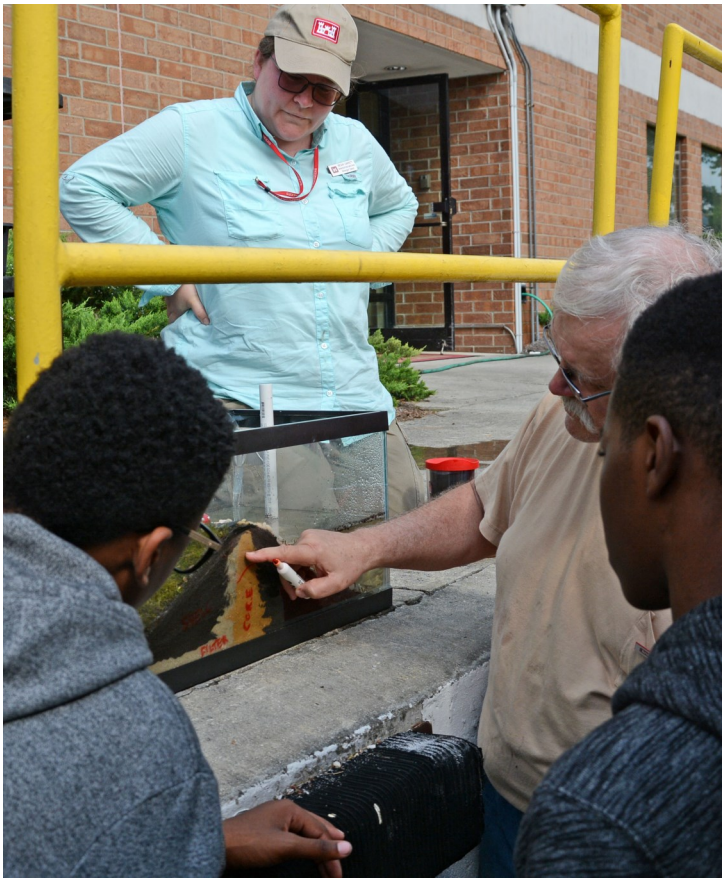
The Wilmington District leads USACE in the number of **Every Kid in a Park** passes issued with Philpott issuing the most for any lake within the Corps. Each lake has made great strides in the program this year and are making valuable contacts with 4th graders concerning the environment, water safety and the Corps' mission during both on and off-site programs.

At the recent NRM Workshop, the Wilmington District won two First Place awards at the **NRM Workshop Water Safety and Interpretation Resources Contest**. In the water safety giveaway category, the SAW Water Safety Team received an award for their sand pail giveaway. In the Interpretive Program USACE Category, Dana Matics and Carmen Boyette accepted first place for a Dam building program that was developed several years ago at Falls/Jordan.

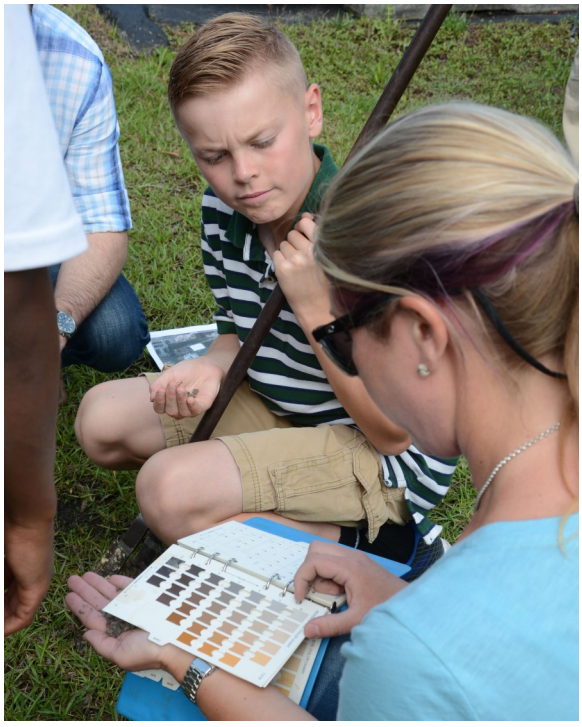


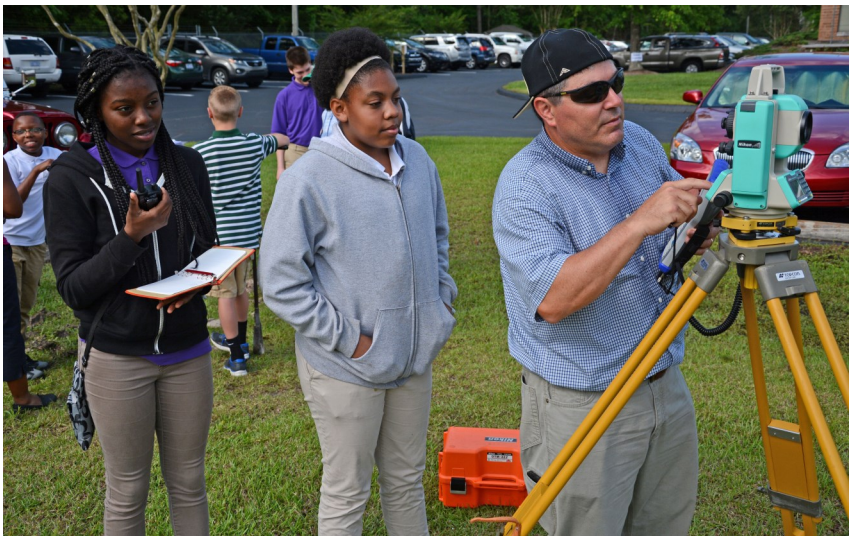
SAD Commander BG David Turner and COL Landers presented Chief of Program Management for MILCON, Sam Colella, (COL, U.S. Army Ret.), the Commander's Award for Civilian Service. Colella established published Standard Operating Procedures for execution, and running a weekly MILCON academic session for SAW. (Bruce Rader photo)

NATIONAL CHILD TO WORK DAY INTRODUCES YOUNGSTERS TO STEM PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES



It was a busy day for the Wilmington District on National Child to Work Day as dozens of teammates volunteered their time to show students and pupils what they as parents do for a living. In addition, they encouraged their kids and guests from D.C. Virgo Middle School to develop an interest in math and science. Volunteers demonstrated such things as surveying techniques, how earthen dams are built, and what to look for when taking soil samples.





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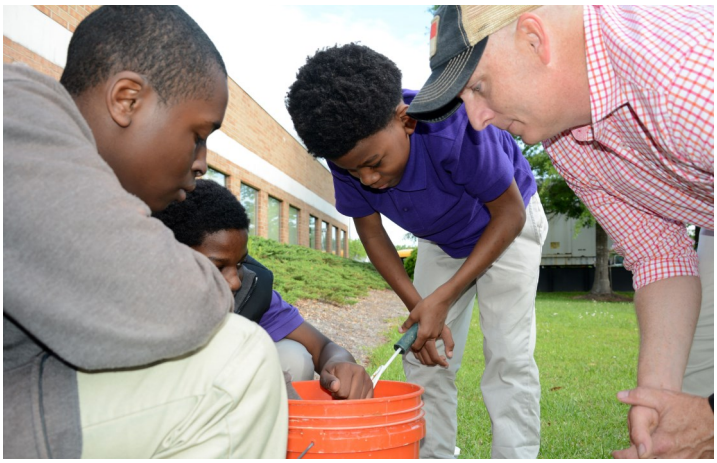
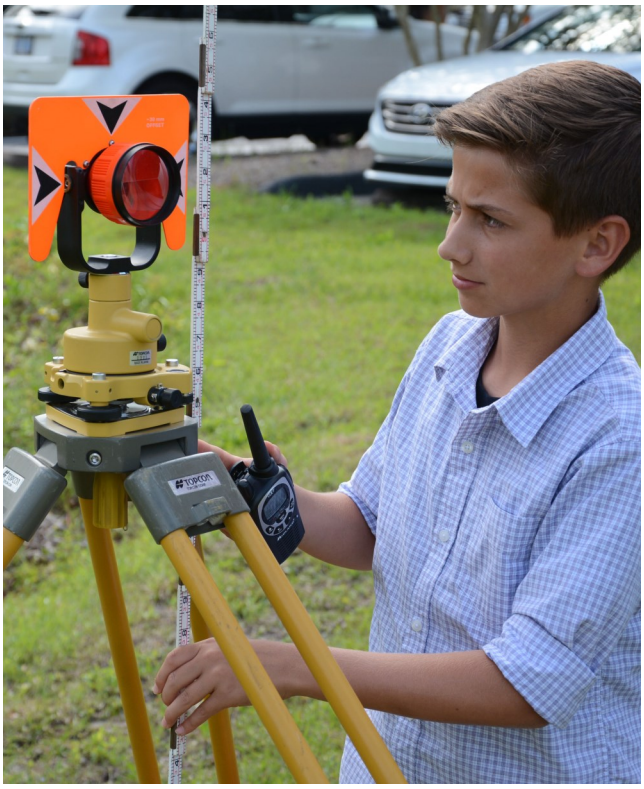
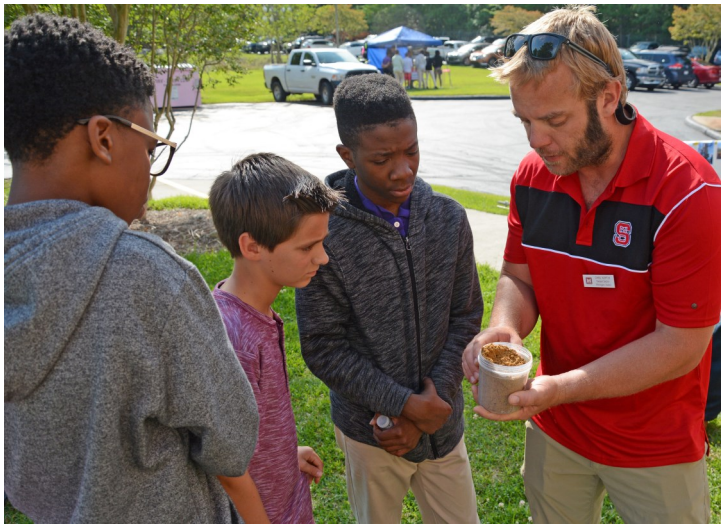
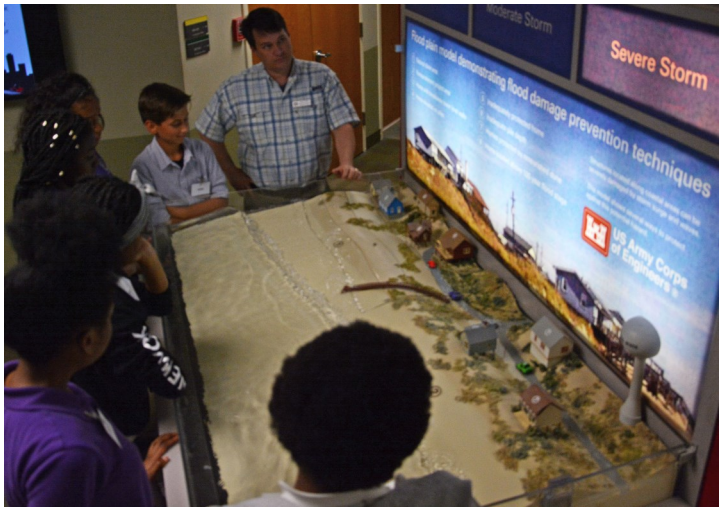
ENGINEERS CON'T







USACE Photos by Hank Heusinkveld



ARMY CELEBRATES 242ND BIRTHDAY ON CAPITOL HILL WITH LAWMAKERS

WASHINGTON -- As Army leaders, Soldiers, and politicians gathered at the Dirksen Senate Building on Wednesday afternoon to celebrate the Army's 242nd birthday, they reflected on the vital role the Army plays in the nation's defense against growing threats to national security.

Acting Secretary of the Army Robert M. Speer was joined for remarks and a cake cutting by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey, Senators James Inhofe and John Boozman, and Representatives John Carter, Ted Yoho, Warren Davidson, Tim Walz and Trent Franks.

This year's theme of "Over There! A celebration of the World War I Soldier" commemorates the United States' entry into World War I and its historical significance to the Army. Speer said the war was a pivotal period in the service's history.

"World War I was a transition time in the history of our nation," Speer said. "It's when the United States stepped forward into the role that it has today ... I believe right now is that same transition point for the United States and our defense."

Speers mentioned the importance of sustained, predictable funding in remaining the nation's premier fighting force. The Army is encouraging support for its $166.1 billion fiscal year 2018 budget request that supports facility sustainment, critical requirement restoration, installation and cyber security, readiness and power projection. A three percent increase in investment funding will provide support for modernization of combat vehicles and the acquisition of preferred munitions, he said.

The funding request is reflective of the immense growth of the Army in its 242-year history. The U.S. Army was created on June 14, 1775 -- more than a year before the signing of the U.S. Constitution -- with about 27,000 Soldiers stationed in Boston and New York. Today the Army has about 183,600 Soldiers deployed around the world in 140 countries supporting combatant commanders and protecting America's vital strategic interests.

U.S. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley cuts the cake for the Army's 242nd Army Birthday on Capitol Hill, June 14, 2017 along with Acting Secretary of the Army Robert M. Speer and Sergeant Major of the Army Daniel A. Dailey. (Photo Credit: U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Jamill Ford)

"The United States Army today is a large organization of a million strong," said Milley. "All three components [active duty, National Guard, and Reserve]... easily constitute the greatest army in the world today."

Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma agreed. "When you see the [Army] uniforms out there… that's the biggest protection that we have."

16 JUNE 1775— 16 JUNE 2017

HAPPY 242ND BIRTHDAY USACE

On **June 16**, 1775, George Washington was appointed commander in chief of the Continental Army by the Second Continental Congress. That same day, the Congress authorized the creation of the post of chief engineer for the army, in anticipation of upcoming battles with British forces. The engineers' work building fortifications, surveying terrain, and clearing roads during the war proved so valuable to the Revolutionary forces that the Congress resolved, four years later, based on a recommendation from the Board of War:

"Resolved, That the engineers in the service of the United States shall be formed into a corps, and styled the "corps of engineers;" and shall take rank and enjoy the same rights, honours, and privileges, with the other troops…That a commandant of the corps of engineers shall be appointed by Congress, to whom their orders, and those of the Commander in Chief, shall be addressed…"

The future of the Corps was even more firmly assured in 1802, when President Thomas Jefferson established the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the first U.S. school of engineering. Until 1866, the superintendent of West Point was an engineer officer. One of West Point's missions was to train generations of military engineers to participate in both military and civilian engineering projects on behalf of the nation.

The Army Corps of Engineers played an active role in the development and/or completion of many sites in the nation's capital, including the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, Rock Creek Park, and the Library of Congress. Pierre Charles L'Enfant, a Frenchman who had served as an engineer during the American Revolutionary War, designed the basic plan for the city of Washington, D.C., and supervised the design of its earliest

public buildings.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has engaged in various civil construction projects and has long maintained a national role in the development of coastal fortifications, lighthouses, and waterways; in the improvement of rivers and harbors; and in the design, building, and maintenance of structures such as bridges, canals, levees, locks, and hydroelectric dams and roads.

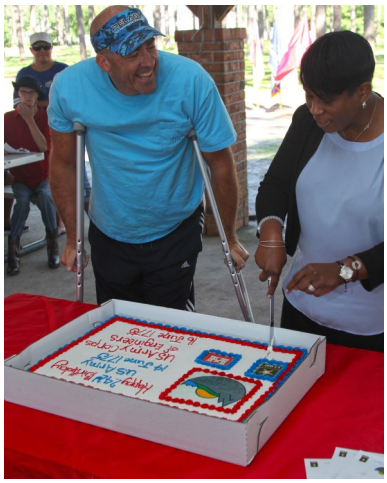
To relieve unemployment during the Great Depression, the U.S. Government engaged the Corps of Engineers in planning, constructing, and maintaining a vast flood control network of levees along the Mississippi River and its tributaries. The dams and locks of the related Upper Mississippi Nine-Foot Channel Project mitigated economic problems and brought a fully navigable interior river system to the Midwest.

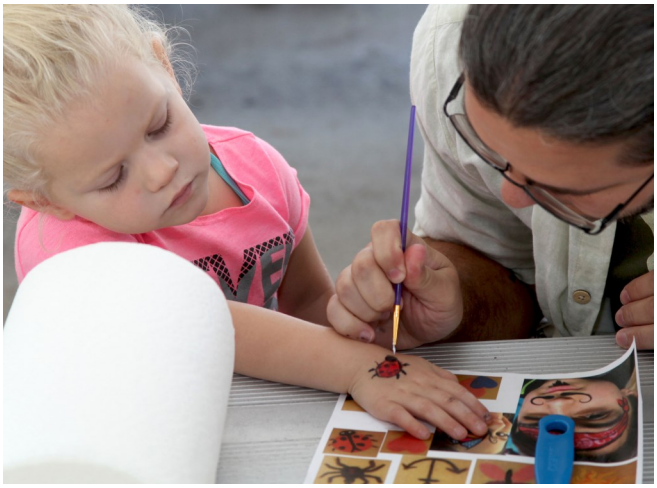
During World War II, corpsmen worked on military engineering projects in the European and Asian-Pacific theaters—building bases, landing strips, storage depots, and hospitals. The Corps both facilitated the mobility of allied troops and countered the mobility of enemy troops. In 1942, they eked out a 1,500-mile trail through the Pacific Northwest, creating a military supply route that became known as the Alcan (Alaska-Canadian) or Alaska Highway. The Corps helped to build the nuclear research facilities in the U.S. that were used by participants in the Manhattan Project to develop the Atomic Bomb.

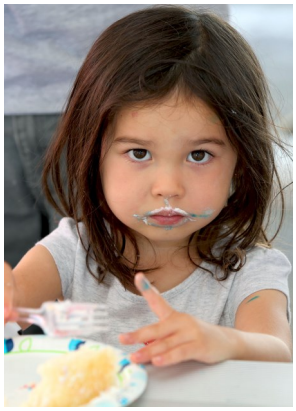
Today, the Corps continues its work in the management of water resources, the development of civil and military infrastructure, and the response to natural and man-made disasters, and works with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to clean up contaminated sites.

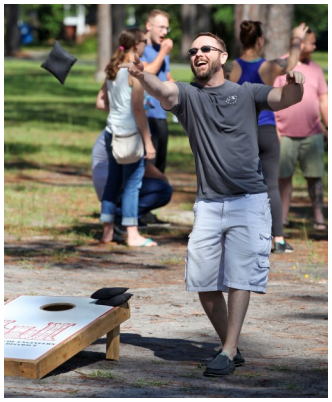
HIGHLIGHTS FROM CORPS DAY 2017

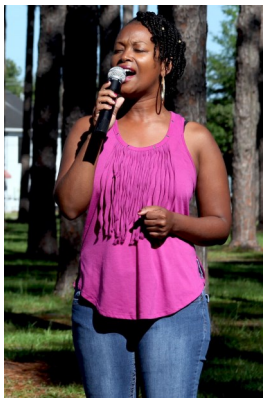
Congratulations to Ed Dunlop , left, who earned Employee of the Year. Dunlop is a Senior Civil Engineer in the Engineering, construction and Planning Division and was cited for having flexibility and willingness to provide exceptional customer service. Dean Rodbourn, stands with DPPM Christine Brayman, was officially recognized as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Logistics Activity Employee of the Year.











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Photos by

Bruce Rader

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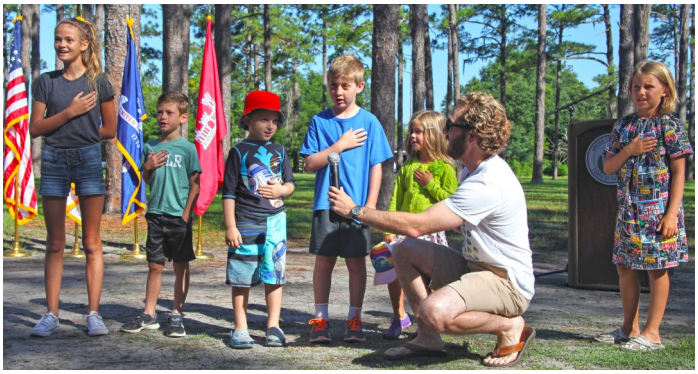

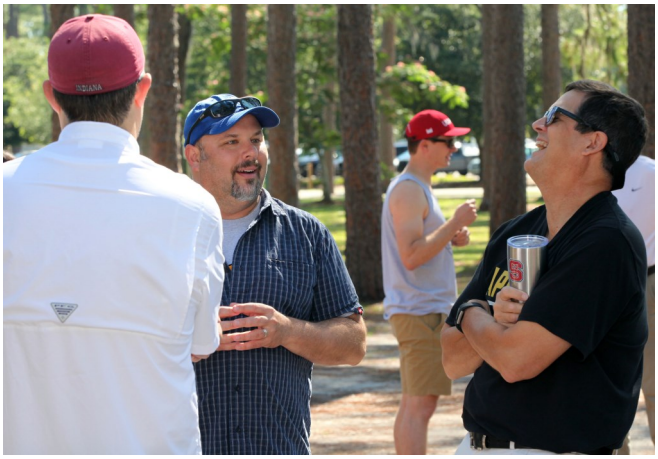

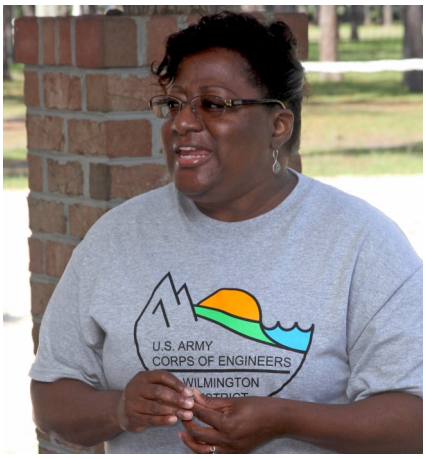

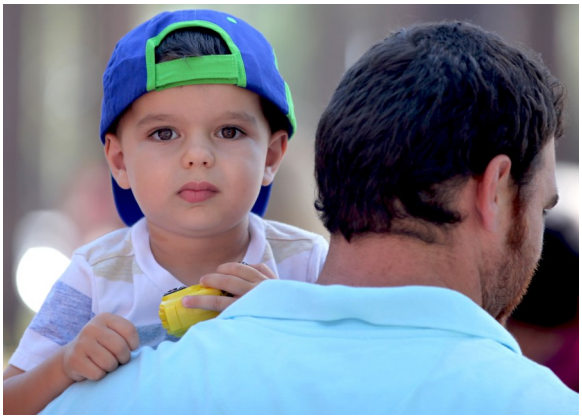

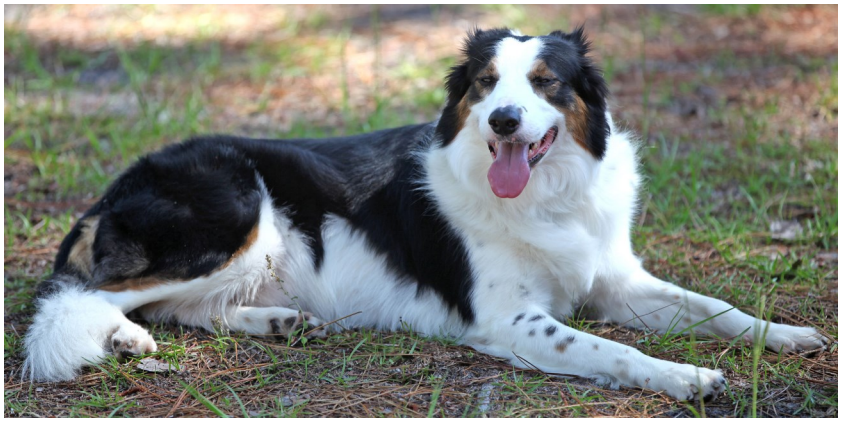

Happy 242nd Birthdays to the U.S. Army (14 June 1775) and

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (16 June 1775)